

June 22, 2017

RE: Updates to Manitoba's Immunization Program

Please review Manitoba's vaccine eligibility criteria as there are many notable changes effective June 2017 (www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/vaccineeligibility.html), including specific eligibility criteria for people currently under the care of CancerCare Manitoba.

The **DTaP-IPV (Infanrix®-IPV) vaccine** that was previously used in children four to less than 7 years of age who had not been previously immunized as part of their primary series is no longer available for use in Canada once current stock is depleted; DTaP-IPV-Hib (Pediaceel®) is to be used in its place. Please refer to *The Recommended Immunization Schedules for Those Not Previously Immunized* for more information at: www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/not.html.

Please locate **all expired vaccine**, including seasonal flu vaccine, in your refrigerator and arrange with the provincial vaccine warehouse to have it returned; please refer to *The Return Policy and Procedure* (www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/docs/vbrpp.pdf) for more information.

Children in grade 6 or between 11 and less than 16 years of age should be given two adult (1.0mL/dose) hepatitis B vaccine doses (Engerix®-B); children under 11 years of age should receive three pediatric (0.5mL/dose) hepatitis B vaccine doses (Recombivax HB®). Due to a national hepatitis B vaccine shortage, Manitoba's supply of Recombivax HB® (pediatric) has been reduced. Therefore, children 11 to less than 16 years of age who have had one or more pediatric doses (0.5mL/dose) can finish the series with a 1.0mL Engerix®-B dose, if necessary. Usage of Recombivax HB® is being closely monitored; providers/facilities ordering Recombivax HB® may be contacted by Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living to confirm usage.

As per the most recent March 2017 update to the Canadian Immunization Guide, the 0.25mL/dose schedule (that MHSAL previously used for its Grade 4 Hepatitis B Immunization Program) has been changed to 0.5mL/dose. As per the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI): *following review of immunogenicity and safety data, NACI is now recommending the provision of a 0.5mL/dose to all children of hepatitis B-negative mothers who are less than 11 years of age. This change is expected to harmonize dosing schedules and reduce vaccine wastage. Infants and children less than 11 years of age who were immunized with a complete series using the previously recommended 0.25mL dosage do not require revaccination.*

Manitoba's **Hepatitis B Immunization Program** has been reviewed and updated, including hepatitis B vaccine eligibility (www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/vaccineeligibility.html):

- All children born on or after January 1st 2006 in Grade 6 (school-based program) are eligible to receive 2 doses of: Recombivax HB® 1.0mL at 0, 4-6 months **OR** Engerix®-B 1.0mL at 0, 6 months.

- Individuals born between 1989 and 2005 who missed the vaccine in Grade 4 (school-based program) are eligible for up to 4 doses; 3 or 4 doses are recommended for individuals 16 years of age and older.*
- Individuals of any age with at least one of the following high-risk medical conditions are eligible to receive 3 or 4 doses:*
 - Chronic liver disease from any cause, including persons infected with hepatitis C.
 - Hemophiliacs and other people receiving repeated infusions of blood or blood products.
 - Chronic renal disease or undergoing chronic dialysis (hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis).
 - Congenital immune deficiencies (B cell deficiency, T cell mixed defects, phagocytic and neutrophil disorders, complement deficiency).
 - HIV-infection.
 - Hematopoietic stem cell transplant recipient (as per CancerCare Manitoba Blood and Marrow Transplant (BMT) Immunization Schedule) or awaiting solid organ transplant.
- Patients currently under the care of a haematologist or oncologist from CancerCare Manitoba (CCMB) who have the following conditions and have been provided a CCMB directed Immunization Schedule:
 1. Malignant neoplasms (solid tissue and haematological) including leukemia and lymphoma, or clonal blood disorder, and who will receive or have completed immunosuppressive therapy including chemo therapy or radiation therapy, **or**
 2. Patients who are hypo- or asplenic (Sickle Cell Disease, etc.)
- Inmates of correctional facilities.*
- Residents of institutions for the developmentally challenged.*
- Individuals with lifestyle risks for infection, including people engaging in illicit drug use, men having sex with men (MSM) and those who engage in other risky sexual practices.*
- Premature and/or full-term infants of mothers who are hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) positive or unknown HBsAg status are eligible for up to 4 doses.**

*Refer to [Table 3: Recommended Dosages and Schedules for Hepatitis B-Containing Vaccines](#) of the Canadian Immunization Guide for product-specific recommendations by age/medical condition.

**Refer to [Table 3: Recommended Dosages and Schedules for Hepatitis B-Containing Vaccines](#) as well as [Table 4: Hepatitis B Recommendations for Premature Infants Weighing less than 2,000 grams, by Maternal Hepatitis B Surface Antigen \(HBsAg\) Status](#) of the Canadian Immunization Guide for vaccine dosage, interval and schedule recommendations.

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility or clinic.

Sincerely,

“Original signed by”

Richard Baydack, PhD
Director
Communicable Disease Control
Health, Seniors & Active Living

“Original signed by”

Tim Hilderman, MD FRCP
Medical Lead, Vaccines
Communicable Disease Control
Health, Seniors & Active Living